

STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-0435

ROBERT J. MARTINEAU, JR. COMMISSIONER

BILL HASLAM GOVERNOR

To: Office of Policy and Planning

From: Maggie Joyce, Policy Analyst

Date: October 30, 2015

Re: Old Road AT Relo Project

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) received a request for comment from the Watauga Ranger District of the Cherokee National Forest on the Old Road AT Relo Project, which is categorically excluded from documentation in an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to 36 CFR 220.6 (e)(1). The Forest Service proposes the relocation of approximately 0.45 miles of the Appalachian Trail in Johnson County, Tennessee running south from Double Springs, along a decommissioned Forest Service road connecting back with the existing trail. The proposal is to relocate some segments of the trail with significant grade changes to reduce the grade in order to protect the resource from further erosion.

TDEC's Division of Natural Areas (DNA) and Tennessee State Parks and Real Property Management have reviewed the proposed project and supporting materials and have indicated that it is not necessary for the department to provide comments.

MEJ